

## 8. COMMUNITY ADVOCATE'S UPDATE

### 8.1 Draft Annual Plan

The Draft Annual Plan was placed on the Council's website for consultation purposes on Friday 19 April. The published version is available from Monday 29 April.

Submissions on the Draft Plan close on Thursday 30 May. The Board may wish to consider making a submission on the Draft Annual Plan and setting a date for a Special Meeting for this purpose.

At the March Council meeting a number of changes were made to the Annual Plan timetable. Hearings of submissions are set down from 24-26 June, 28 June and 1 to 4 July. The Board has been asked to consider whether it could start its meeting on 3 July later in the day at 4.30pm to avoid a clash with the Annual Plan hearings.

#### Chairman's

**Recommendation:** That the Board set a date for a Special Meeting to enable the preparation of a submission on the Draft Annual Plan and that the Board start its 3 July meeting at 4.30pm to avoid a clash with the Annual Plan Working Party.

### 8.2 Discretionary Fund

The attached schedule shows the Board's allocations to date since 1 July 2001. A total of \$8,960 remains available for allocation. This figure does not include the \$2,945 to be returned from Ferrymead Heritage Park.

### 8.3 Community Events and Special Days

A total of \$9,620 remains available for allocation from this fund.

### 8.4 Community Response Fund

A total of \$4,400 remains available for allocation from this fund.

### 8.5 Report of Seminar Meeting – 18 April

The seminar meeting of the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board was held on Thursday 18 April at 4.00pm. The following matters were considered:

#### Central City Social Research Projects

The focus of the seminar was for Board members and invited guests to receive briefings on three central city social research projects from Mary Richardson, Social and Economic Policy Analyst and Jenny Smith, Co-ordinator Te Whare Roimata and Belle Melzer, Inner City East Neighbourhood Group. The three projects were:

- At Home in the Central City A Social and Demographic Profile of the residents of Christchurch Central City.
- Christchurch Inner City East: A Community Survey.
- Community Groups Priority for Central City Development.

#### ***The Social and Demographic Profile***

This report provides a demographic and social profile of Christchurch's central city, the area that falls within the four avenues, Bealey, Fitzgerald, Deans and Moorhouse. Analysis has been conducted for all sections that consider the implications of findings for future planning initiatives. It includes data from the 2001 Census and provides comparisons for the central city and Christchurch as a whole.

The first section covers major features and trends for the central city as a whole while the second provides a detailed demographic assessment at meshblock level for areas within the Avon Loop census area unit, a region recognised as having particular areas of need.

The purpose of this report is to identify the major characteristics of those who live in the central city and to discuss these characteristics in terms of the planning issues raised.

### ***The Christchurch Inner City East Community Survey***

Represents the findings of a community survey conducted October – December 2000 within Christchurch's inner-city east area to establish the needs of a changing and diverse population. It was updated with information from the 2001 census.

Results of the research identify issues of concern for both residents and people working within the inner-city east location. Statistics confirm that residents of this community are disproportionately represented in many of the negative social indices. Interviews with those working within this community provided a personalised perspective that supports this trend. Many members of this community disproportionately experience hardship and live in compromised circumstances. However, the survey identified that there was a strong sense of community spirit amongst many residents who are committed to living within and improving both environmental and social characteristics associated with this part of the city. The area is a unique district and diverse community. There is more intra-transience within the community rather than inter-transience between commodities. More appropriate affordable housing is needed.

Recommendations from the report included:

- Central and Local Government to recognise the low-socio economic status of the area.
- Application of the "triple bottom line" approach to planning to ensure integrated planning for this area, with particular thought to the consequences of initiatives.
- Consultation targeted to ensure those least advantaged are given appropriate opportunity for their voices to be heard.
- Revitalisation efforts to proceed carefully in keeping with this neighbourhood's values and traditions, particularly with regard to maintaining the stock of affordable housing.
- Police to recognise the need for increased community policing.
- Local government to address the imbalance of the low socio-economic reality of this area compared with other Christchurch areas.

The third report ***Priorities for Central City Revitalisation: A Community Sector Survey*** represents the findings of a survey of social service not for profit agencies based in the central city. The survey was conducted to ensure that the views of community groups were adequately reflected in the central city revitalisation strategy.

Community groups identified that they enjoyed being situated in the central city because of the accessibility for their clients (throughout Christchurch), the proximity to other community groups (thus allowing a more collaborative approach), the ease of access for central city clients, the type of office accommodation available and the proximity to government agencies.

The survey identified that parking, public transport and open, safety and green spaces were key priorities associated with the development of the physical infrastructure. The survey identified that groups were concerned about possible gentrification in terms of "Making People feel unwelcome" or "forcing people out of the city because they no longer fit into the city's new image". The survey identified that community groups thought that it was important that the sense of community or "community feeling" was enhanced rather than damaged in the process of revitalisation.

### **CONCLUSION**

Those present at the seminar questioned what does revitalisation mean and discussed that for many people it may mean different things. It was noted that Council is able to budget for areas of greater need for infrastructure but not for social issues across the city.

The Board considered meeting with Te Whare Roimata to discuss possible action points.

The reports will be presented to the Central City Social Focus Team for analysis and to the Mayoral Forum.

### **Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.

## **8.6 Linwood Avenue Bulbs**

At the April Board meeting during the item on the 2001/02 City Streets Roading Programme a question was raised about the item Linwood Avenue Bulb Planting in the median \$5,000.

This planting has occurred from the maintenance programme. Therefore the \$5,000 needs to be reallocated. The Board has previously received an option to transfer this to bulb planting in Fitzgerald Avenue. Does the Board want to transfer this for bulbs in Fitzgerald Avenue or it could be reallocated to Linwood Park.

### **Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** For discussion.

## **8.7 Environment Canterbury**

Environment Canterbury have provided a copy of "Looking Ahead 2002-2011" which sets out their draft Annual Plan and draft Long Term Financial Strategy.

If the Board wishes to make a submission it needs to be at Environment Canterbury on 15 May 2002.

## **8.8 Neighbourhood Week**

Attached are the minutes from the meeting of the Neighbourhood Week Joint Committee held on Thursday 11 April 2002. Yani Johanson attended the meeting.

## **8.9 Bus Stop Petitions**

Two petitions have been received requesting that the Board install an extra bus stop either side of Linwood Avenue between Hargood Street and Linwood Park. The petitions have been circulated separately. It is suggested that the Board request a report from City Streets Unit.

### **Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.